

Cycling is a great way to keep fit whilst at the same time getting from A to B or exploring your local area.

The **Cyclesolihull** routes in this series of leaflets will take you along most of the network of quiet lanes in and around Solihull, introducing you to some places you probably didn't even know existed!

The routes have been carefully chosen to avoid busier roads so are ideal for new cyclists and children learning to cycle on the road.

You can cycle the routes alone or with family and friends, or join other people on one of the regular **Community Cycle Rides**.

CycletoSolihull Day



A chance to join other cyclists in Solihull town centre for a cycling afternoon. Join one of the special rides or simply head to the town centre on your bike. For details of this year's event go to:

www.cycletosolihullday.org.uk

This is one of a series of cycle ride leaflets produced by **Cyclesolihull** which is a voluntary organisation which aims to encourage people in the Solihull area to cycle more. Cyclesolihull organises free community rides, publicises routes and provides information about cycling.

Cyclesolihull offers regular opportunities to join with others to ride the routes in this series of leaflets. The rides are organised by volunteers and typically attract between 10 and 25 riders. To get involved, just turn up and ride!

Sunday Cycle Rides take place most Sunday afternoons at 2 pm throughout the summer (less frequently in winter) starting from one of a number of different starting points. "S" (short) routes are about 10 miles long, "M" (medium) routes about 15 miles long and "L" (long) routes about 20 miles long. On the second Sunday of the month in the summer there is a 5 or 6 mile **Taster Ride**. This is an opportunity to try a Cyclesolihull ride without going very far and is an ideal introduction to the rides, especially for new cyclists and children.

Saturday Xtra rides take place monthly starting at 9.30 am from different starting points. They are similar to the Sunday rides but about 25 miles long and follow the "XL" routes.

Saturday Stretcher rides are also monthly starting at 9.30 am from different starting points. They are faster rides of about 35 miles long and do not follow a fixed route, so are suitable for more experienced cyclists.

Evening Explorer Rides are on a midweek evening from early May to late August starting at 7 pm and following the shorter "S" routes so are about 10 miles long.

Refreshment Stops All Cyclesolihull rides have an en-route refreshment stop of about 30 minutes at a family-friendly pub or tearoom.

For details of the current programme go to:

www.cyclesolihull.org.uk

or pick up a copy of the **Cyclesolihull** ride programme on one of the rides.



XL8

extra long route from
Balsall Common

CycleSolihull

Explore your borough by bike



**25 miles via Norton Lindsey,
Hatton & Chadwick End**

Have fun and get fit exploring your local area with this self-guided cycle ride.

Route XL8

Balsall Common to Norton Lindsey & Hatton

Distance: 25 miles (130-190 mins). **Start:** The Library, Kenilworth Road. Balsall Common CV7 7EL, SP238772.

Parking: There is a car park behind the library. The entrance is via a narrow entrance off Station Road.

Route Summary: A ride which is mainly on quiet country lanes to Hatton Country World passing through a still sparsely populated part of the ancient 'Forest of Arden'

Refreshments: Apart from the café at Hatton Country World, there are two pubs just off the route.

The Route

A From outside the library go L and, with care, turn R at the roundabout into Station Rd. Turn second L into Kemps Green Road. At the end turn L and follow the road around until the end.

B Turn R and first L into **Frog Lane**. At the end turn R into **Holly Lane**. At the next crossroads go SO into **Brees Lane**. At the end turn L towards Warwick.

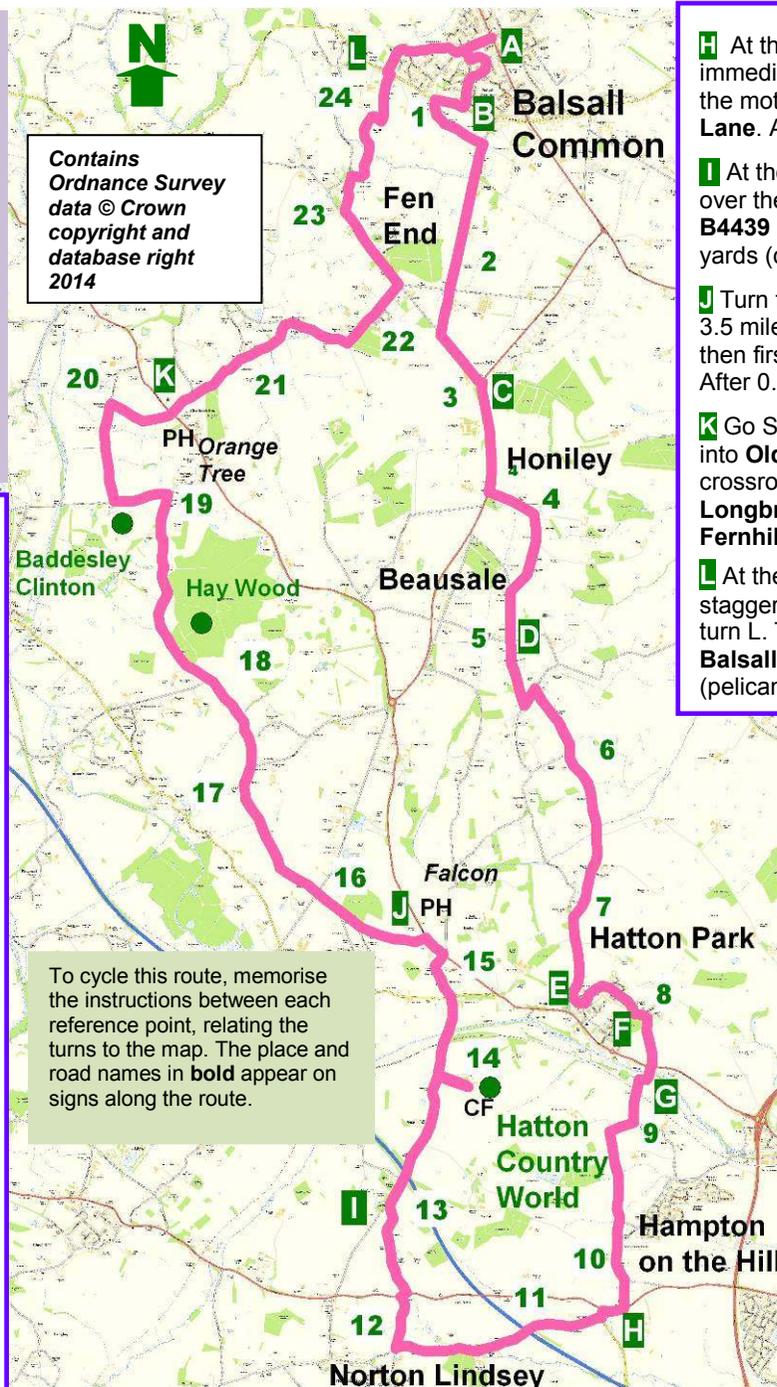
C At the end of the lane turn R on to the **A4177** (caution this is a busier road). After 0.75 miles turn L into the narrow lane opposite **The Boot** restaurant. Follow the lane around to the R, passing **Honiley Church** in the distance. At the end of the lane turn L.

D At the crossroads in **Beausale** go SO towards **Warwick**. At the end of the road turn L and then first R into a narrow lane. Follow this lane for 1.5 miles to the end and turn L towards Hatton.

E After 0.5 miles turn L through a brick gateway and R through a cut-through into modern housing and turn R. At the end of Quinton Close turn L. Follow the main road through the housing until the end.

F At the end of **Barcheston Rd** turn L and follow the road past **King Edward's Court**, bearing R at the final cul-de-sac. Join the shared-use path on the R and follow this for 0.3 miles to reach the Warwick Rd.

G Cross with care the main road into the narrow lane opposite (next to the filling station). Go under the railway and next R and at the end R again towards **Hampton-on-the-Hill**. Continue through the village and turn first R to **Norton Lindsey**.



F At the main road turn R and first L on to the **B4463** and then immediately R towards **Norton Lindsey**. Follow the road over the motorway and turn R at the first crossroads into **Brittons Lane**. At the main road go SO at the staggered junction.

I At the end turn R and follow the lane for 1.5 miles, passing over the motorway and **Hatton Country World**. Go SO at the **B4439** and L on to the **A4177** (caution busier road) for 200 yards (continue SO for 200 yards to visit the **Falcon** pub).

J Turn first L towards **Mousley End** and follow this road SO for 3.5 miles. At the end of the lane go L towards **Lapworth** and then first R opposite **Baddesley Clinton (National Trust)**. After 0.6 miles turn R into **Netherwood Lane**.

K Go SO at the **A4141** (turn R to visit the **Orange Tree** pub) into **Oldwych Lane West** and follow the road for 2 miles. At the crossroads turn L toward **Fen End**. Turn first R into the **Longbrook Lane**. At the isolated crossroads turn R into **Fernhill Lane** and follow this winding lane to the end.

L At the **B4101** go across L/R into **Needlers Lane** at the staggered junction. Follow this suburban road to the end and turn L. This road leads back to the roundabout on the **A452** in **Balsall Common** and the library is across the road to your L (pelican crossing available).

Key to Map

- A B** Start and route reference point
- 1, 2** Mileage from start point
- Quiet road
- Busier road
- Cycle path
- Canal towpath
- Significant hill climb (in direction of travel)
- PH** Public House
- CF** Café or tearoom
- SH** Shop selling drinks, sweets etc
- Notable church
- Place of interest
- Water feature

Abbreviations used in the route description:
L left, R right, SO straight on.